



YSTRADGYNLAIS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C. E. EDWARDS, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

W. EMLYN JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

For the Year 1967

The Medical Officer's Report

To : The Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report for the health and sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1967.

The health of the district continues to be good, with the majority of deaths being in the higher age group. During the year, four cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, but there was no serious outbreak of infectious disease, neither were there any outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

Inspections were carried out to food handling stores, bakehouses, licensed premises, and ice cream shops. It was not necessary to take any legal action.

The rehousing of families continues, and the building programme during the year catered for old people. Twelve new bungalows were completed and occupied, and the larger houses occupied by these tenants became available for young families.

I wish to tender my best thanks to the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

CREIGHTON E. EDWARDS,

B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

SEWAGE

The whole district is on main drainage with one sewerage disposal works. The disposal plant has been working normally and the sewerage effluent complies with the standard laid down by the Royal Commission.

STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS

The district consists of two parishes, Ystradgynlais Higher and Ystradgynlais Lower, their respective areas 13,182 and 9,016, a total of 22,198 acres.

Population : 10,510

Industries : Ystradgynlais Lower is more industrial in nature than Ystradgynlais Higher and is more thickly populated. The chief industries are coal mining, watch making, light engineering and furniture manufacture, quarrying and agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS

<i>Births</i>		<i>Ystradgynlais</i>		<i>Brecon</i>
		<i>R.D.C.</i>		<i>C.C.</i>
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
No of legitimate live births	55	65	120	700
No. of illegitimate live births	4	1	5	36
Total live births	59	66	125	736
Birth rate per 1000 population				
1967			11.9	13.57
Registrar General comparability factor			0.73	1.11
No. of still births legitimate	0	4	4	16
No. of still births illegitimate	0	0	0	0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.2	.8	4	4.89
Still births per 1000 live and still births			31	21.27

DEATHS

	M.	F.	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Deaths for District	86	76	162	703
Crude death rate per 1000 of population			15.4	12.96
Registrar General comparability factor			1.42	
Corrective Death Rate			15.4	

MATERNAL MORTALITY

NIL

NIL

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

Legitimate	0	1	1	8
Illegitimate	0	0	0	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births			8	12.22

Neo Natal Mortality Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

Legitimate	0	1	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0	1
Total	0	1	1	7
Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1000 live births			3.9	9.51

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age :

Legitimate	0	1	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0	1
Total	0	1	1	7
Early Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1000 live births			3.9	9.51

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age plus number of still births :			
No. of Deaths under 1 week	1	1	2
No. of still births	0	4	4
Perinatal mortality rate			31.25

CANCER DEATHS

No. of Deaths from malignant neoplasms and lymphatic neoplasms ..	14	10	24
Cancer death rate			2.27

CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	0	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	0	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	4	11
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	21	30
Coronary disease, angina	24	15	39
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	6	10	16
Other circulatory disease	2	5	7
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	0
Bronchitis	9	2	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	10	0	10
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Ulcer	0	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	8	11
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	0	1
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All causes	86	76	162

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Measles	8
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TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases notified :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Respiratory	1	2	3
Non-Respiratory	1	0	1

LABORATORY FACILITIES

General Medical : Beck Laboratory General Hospital,
Swansea.

Water Supplies : Public Health Laboratory Services,
Carmarthen.

Milk : Public Health Laboratory Services, Carmarthen.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Infectious Diseases : The infectious disease hospital is situated at Hill House Swansea and is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital Facilities : General Hospital facilities are provided for at Swansea Hospital, Morriston Hospital and the West Glamorgan Hospital at Neath, all of which are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Services : There are two ambulances in the district and they are under the control of the Breconshire County Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

There are five piped supplies in the area, four of which are chlorinated. The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity and every house has its own piped supply, except in the case of a few scattered dwellings such as isolated farms. There has been no evidence of any form of contamination. There are no stand pipes supplies.

Date	Water Supply	Results
13.1.67	Ffrydiau Twrch Colbren Supply Lion Supply Garwleisiau	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
3.2.67	Garwleisiau Lion Supply Ffrydiau Twrch Colbren Supply	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
17.3.67	Colbren Supply Lion Supply Ffrydiau Twrch Garwleisiau	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
15.4.67	Lion Supply Garwleisiau Colbren Supply Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
11.5.67	Lion Supply Garwleisiau Ffrydiau Twrch Colbren Supply	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
16.6.67	Lion Supply Garwleisiau Colbren Supply Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
21.7.67	Lion Supply Colbren Supply Ffrydiau Twrch Garwleisiau	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
18.8.67	Ffrydiau Twrch Colbren Supply Lion Supply Garwleisiau Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Date	Water Supply	Results
9.9.67	Lion Supply	Satisfactory
	Colbren Supply	Satisfactory
	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
	Garwleisiau	Satisfactory
27.10.67	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
	Lion Supply	Satisfactory
	Garwleisiau	Satisfactory
	Colbren Supply	Satisfactory
9.11.67	Colbren Supply	Satisfactory
	Lion Supply	Satisfactory
	Garwleisiau	Satisfactory
	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
7.12.67	Lion Supply	Satisfactory
	Colbren Supply	Satisfactory
	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
	Garwleisiau	Satisfactory

The Public Health Inspector's Report

To : The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour of presenting my report for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Twelve one-bedroom Old Age Pensioners Bungalows became ready during the year and were allocated. Three houses were rendered fit following the service of informal notices and 33 houses were brought up to the standard of fitness required by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954.

Forty-nine visits were made to premises under the Offices Shops & Railway Premises Act, all the premises in the district to which the Act applies being visited.

Routine inspections of food premises were carried out and both slaughterhouses in the area were inspected following every killing. During my holidays this work was carried out by a qualified veterinary inspector.

Your Obedient Servant,

W. EMLYN JONES,

Public Health Inspector.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections (Housing and Public Health Act)

Water Supply	15
Drainage	45
Housing Inspections	273
Infectious Diseases	0
Verminous Premises	0
Factories and Workshops	9
Licensed Premises	0
Refuse Collection and Disposal	119
Butchers	233
Canteens	9
Grocers	56
Greengrocers	7
Fried Fish Shops	36
Bakehouses	10
Miscellaneous Food visits	1
Food Preparing Premises	44
Ice Cream Premises	0
Tents, Vans and Sheds	5
Public Conveniences	16
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	6
Slaughterhouses	264
Offices and Shops Act	49
Schools	0
Hospitals	1
Dairies	0
Total	1198

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES

(a) Total Number of dwellinghouses inspected during the year. (Public Health and Housing Acts).	
(b) Number of Inspections for the purpose	273
Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices	3
Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the Local Authority	0

Action under the Statutory Powers during the year

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Acts 1936	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices	0
(a) By Owner	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(B) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts 1936	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(3) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of undertaking given by owners under Section 11	3
(4) Statutory Notices served under Water Act	0

(5) Number complied with	0
(C) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined and tenements or rooms having been rendered fit....	0

NOTICES SERVED

Under the Housing Act :

Number of Informal Notices served	0
Number of Informal Notices complied with	0
Number of Formal Notices served	0
Number of Formal Notices complied with	0

Under the Public Health Act :

Number of Informal Notices served	11
Number of Informal Notices complied with	9
Number of Formal Notices served	0
Number of Formal Notices complied with ..	0

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Both collection and disposal is carried out by direct labour and three collections weekly are made with the exception of main shopping centres where the collections are carried out daily. The total tonnage collected during the year was 8,285 tons.

Three sites are used for tipping, Pantmawr, Rheolau and Yniswen ; at these sites a measure of controlled tipping is practised. Waste material from building operations and County Council road sweepings are used for covering purposes, levelling and tidying up being done by the Bristol Tractor. Infestation on the tips is kept under control by the Rodent Operator.

Disinfection

One house was disinfected during the year which is a reflection on the low incidence of infectious diseases in the locality. Fumigation by formalin gas was carried out in this case and a free supply of liquid disinfectant for the use of the householder concerned in washing down the premises, bed-clothes, drains, etc.

Fried Fish Shops

A register of Fried Fish Shops is kept and five premises throughout the area have been registered. Inspections are made during the daytime when preparation for the evening's business is carried on, also occasional visits are made during the evening. I have no cause to report any serious breach of the regulations.

Preserved Foods

Ten premises have been registered under the Food and Drugs Act as premises for the manufacture of preserved foods. These are butchers shops or butchery departments at Co-operative Stores where sausages are made. A separate room is used for the manufacturing process and a high standard of cleanliness is demanded at these premises. The premises including the utensils are inspected and examined thoroughly. Every effort is made to inspect these premises at least once a month more often than not during the hours of manufacturing.

Meat Inspection

Inspections were systematically made at the Colbren and Cwmgiedd Slaughterhouses and with only two slaughterhouses to cope with and a limited amount of slaughtering it was possible to obtain almost 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered during the year. In all 233 visits were made for this purpose and the following is a list of animals inspected :

<i>Animals Inspected</i>	<i>Parts condemned Diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</i>	<i>Whole Carcasses Condemned. All diseases except Cysticerci</i>
Beasts	115	170 lbs.
Cows	15	22 lbs.
Calves	Nil	Nil
Sheep	1006	212 lbs.
Pigs	87	Nil

Meat imported into the district was also inspected from time to time.

Slaughterhouses

During the year the following slaughterhouses were registered :

1. Danygraig, Colbren, occupied by Mr. John Jeffreys.
2. Glangiedd, Cwmgiedd, occupied by Mr. T. J. E. Thomas.

These slaughterhouses are inspected regularly together with all animals slaughtered therein.

Food Premises

Food shops, canteens and restaurants were visited regularly and the Food Hygiene Regulations were brought to the notice of all persons in charge or employed in such premises.

Following is a list of food condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption :

Corned Beef	16 lbs.
Canned Fish	14 lbs.
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	360 tins
Other Foods	31 tins
Bacon	Nil
Canned Ham	172 lbs.
Cheese	Nil
Meat at Shops	58 lbs.

SEWAGE EFFLUENT

Samples of sewage effluent were taken at the Council's Sewage Works prior to being discharged into the River Tawe and on these the Public Analyst summarised as follows :

Sample No. 1 (10th March, 1967)

This effluent was derived from an extremely weak sewage. Consequently, the expected low organic content, as well as B.O.D. and suspended matter were evident. Satisfactory.

Sample No. 2 (1st June, 1967)

This effluent was low in organic constituents and sufficiently oxidised to maintain aerobic conditions during the five day stability test. The Biochemical Oxygen Demand and suspended solids figures easily complied with the Royal Commission 20/30 standard. Satisfactory.

Sample No. 3 (27th December, 1967)

This sample showed all the features of a well treated effluent. Almost all the nitrogenous impurities had been converted to nitrate. This resulted in an effluent which had a low Biochemical Oxygen Demand and which was stable in character. It satisfied Royal Commission requirements as to B.O.D. and matter in suspension and reflected credit on the maintenance of the plant.

HOUSING

Twelve one-bedroom Old Age Pensioners Bungalows, in accordance with the Surveyor's Register, became ready during the year and were allocated.

Repairs to existing Houses

Good use is being made of Standard and Discretionary Grants and Improvements carried out to existing houses including the installation of a bath, wash-hand basin, hot and cold water supply, W.C. and a food store. The Surveyor reports that the following improvements were carried out—

Standard Grants	7	Grant Payable	£667
Discretionary Grants	26	Grant Payable	£7365
			<hr/>
		Total	£8032
			<hr/>

This means that 33 houses were brought up to the standard of fitness required by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, thus saving the need of building this number of houses at the approximate cost of £85,800.

The work was carried out as follows :

No. of Baths installed	6
No. of Wash-hand basins	6
No. of Hot and Cold Water supply . .	6
No. of Water Closets	6
No. of Food Stores	2

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Inspections were carried out to all premises covered by the Act and in all a total of 49 visits were made. The following is a synopsis of the information gathered from the survey :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. Regd</i>	<i>Persons Employed</i>
Offices	21	41
Retail Shops	25	53
Wholesale Shops	0	0
Catering Establishments	1	1
Fuel Storage Depot	1	8
Offices and Shops Combined	0	52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48	155
	<hr/>	<hr/>

RAINFALL

Records supplied by Surveyor's Department

January	6.49 ins.
February	7.42 ins.
March	3.24 ins.
April	2.30 ins.
May	8.69 ins.
June	1.30 ins.
July	5.14 ins.
August	3.42 ins.
September	8.40 ins.
October	16.49 ins.
November	3.52 ins.
December	6.53 ins.
Total	<hr/> 72.94 ins. <hr/>

RODENT CONTROL

The work of the Rodent Operator during the year is summarised as follows :

Refuse Tips	53
Dwellinghouses	180
Business Premises	86
Disinfestations at Farms ..	24

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. EMLYN JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Public Health Inspector

